


LINGVA, PENNA.

MENTIS MVTA



1688

*Faire Writing, True Orthographie
A perfect Writer dignifie: 
Such is his vertue, such his Grace,
As never Envy can deface.*

The Mens Excellence
or
The Secretaries Delight.

Which as well frentises the same offered unto the workman of the Pen, by
unworthy men, and thus discovered: as the dignity of the Art
by Antiquitie: Excellence: Diversity: & the like is here by demonstrated.

Together with an insertion of sundrie Peeces, or Examples, fully & usually made
of England: as also an addition of certaine methodicall observations for
Writing, Making of the Pen, Holding the Pen, &c.

Written by Martin Bissingsley M^r in & Art of Writing

Nen satis est bene aliquid facere, nisi etiam fiat venuste. W. Holle sculp.

The Greeke & Hebreue with other Peeces never yet extant
are herewith by the Authour exactly added.



To the most Excellent Prince Charles E.

Most Gracious Prince

The humble worke of my hande labour, with my dearely loue, first, trust, & true Affection
Gracious Regard, and now (with an Addition) for a public good, with yo^r fauourable
Patronage, putt forth into the world: I humbly present to yo^r Princely patience,
Beseeching the height of all perfection, so to please yo^r Highnes in all perfections, as
may giue iust cause to y^e vertuous in all Professions, to admire yo^r Excellence, with all
loue and seruice: and make my happines, in seruaunt to yo^r gracious
Maister:

Your Highnes,
in all humbles:

Martin Billingsley.





The Pens Excellencie.

THE Profession of the *Pen* at this day being so *Exordium*.
vniuersall, and the Professors themselves for
the most part so ignorant, and insufficient to
vndertake so worthy a function; together
with the desire I haue (according to my small
Talent) to benefit such as are, or would be
Practitioners in that Commendable Art of
FAIRE WRITING; were the onely mo-
tiues that induced mee to manifest vnto the view of the world, these
few lines heereafter ensuing. Wherein before I enter into discourse
concerning the Art it selfe, giue mee leaue cursorily to demonstrate the

the manifold abuses which are offered vnto the *Pen* by a number of
same *Pen-men*; who as they do intrude themselues into the society of
Artists, and vsurping the name of *Pen-men*, seeke *Detinere Artem in
ignorantia*: so by their audacious brags and lying promises, they doe
shadow and obscure both the excellency of the *Pen*, and the dignity
of those that are, indeed, true Professors thereof.

But I purpose not to heape vp all the abuses which they may be
conceiued to offer vnto the *Pen*; for that were to lose my selfe in an
endlesse discourse: I will onely point at a few which I hold to be the
chiefest, and do belong principally to matter of *Teaching*: And those
I finde to be foure.

1 Abuse.

First you shal obserue that these botchers (for they deserue no bet-
ter title) are, for the greatest part of them, of no standing, nor euer
hath had any ground in the Art, onely haue a certaine confused kind
of writing, void eytther of *Life*, *Dexterity*, or *Art* it selfe; and yet
notwithstanding they professie, and in their Bills (clapt vpon euery
post) promise to performe as much as any whosoeuer. For let any
man obserue their *Ly-bill*, (for so I may very well tearme them) and
hee shall see how liberall they are in their promises this way, profes-
sing to teach any one (not standing vpon the capacity of the pupill)
to write a sufficient hand in a moneth, and some of them doe say

in a fortnight. Yet, if they did but say so, it were tollerable, when as they themselues (I dare be bold to affirm it) may go so long to school to learne a little, and yet not attaine to the true touch thereof, being fitter for other Mechanicall occupations, (wherein some of them, to my knowledge, haue beene brought vp) then for the Profession of this so curious an Art. Whose *Writings* (if they come to the touchstone of Art, which cannot erre, and to the iudgement of Artists, who seldome are deceiued) will prooue lame and schoole-boy-like. And although in some of their doings there may seeme (in the eyes of the ignorant) to be a shew of Art: howbeit *tantum absunt à perfectione, quantum ab ignavia animi magnitudo*, They come as farre short of those that haue the least skill, as they doe of perfection.

Next, whereas we that are Pen-men hold this as a Maxime in the Art of writing, To yeeld a reason of euery thing wee doe (since *plus apud nos vera ratio valet, quàm vulgi opinio*) why, these ignorant Professors are so reasonlesse in all their workes, both of Writing and Teaching, that it is impossible for those whom they teach, or that imitate their doings, to reape any benefit by them, Reason being a second Schoolemaster to bring a man to knowledge in any Art he desires to practise. And certainly (Experience tels mee) that in the matter of Teaching, nothing is more auailable to a learner then the demonstration

monstration of Reason. So that heerein appears the second abuse, in that these men, being not able to yeeld a reason of that they professe: doe neuerthelesse (Parrat-like) boast of their skill, and in their papers giue out vauiting speeches, as if so be they were the onely fellows that would (as we say) beare away the Bell: whereas if a man take a view of any of their workes or writings, he shall finde therein no appearance eyther of Truth, Reason, or Art: but on the contrary, such weake stufte as he would rather imagine it to be the scratching of a Hen, then the worke of a profest Pen-man.

3 Abuse.

Thirdly, (because I would be breife) by these their large (yet lying) promises they blinde the eyes of the Common sort, who are rather affected with nouelties and strange deuices, though they appeare in nothing but vaine ostentations, then with the soundnes of iudgement and exquisiteenes of skill, wherewith Artists are endued. For is it not a common thing amongst them, as well in their residence about this famous City (which God knowes swarmes with them) as in their curricular progresses ouer all places in this kingdom; to carry about them, yea and to set in open view the Writings and Tables of other men, and affirme they are their owne? I appeale to none but to my owne experience herein, howbeit I am perswaded diuers others (and which I know too) will concurre with mee in this trueth. And what

is

is this, thinke you, but *deceptris visus*, a blinding of the world with shewes of what they are not?

Lastly, they doe also hinder the commodity of those that goe as farre beyond them in excellency of Writing, as the Sunne exceeds the Moone; and that two waies.

4 Abuse.

First, by their base and ignominious cariage of themselves in their accustomed cosening, whereby men take occasion to conceiue so ill of others of the same profession, that it is almost impossible for any one (doe or meane hee neuer so well,) to haue entertainment where they haue beene before.

And secondly by the multitude of them, which is so great that a man can goe into no corner of this City, but hee shall see and heare of a world of squinting Teachers, not one of them almost worthy to carry a Pen-mans Incke-horne after him; much lesse to beare the name of a good Pen-man.

Diuers other abuses there are which these men doe offer vnto the excellency of the *Pen & Pen-men*: But lest I should seeme prolix in so slight an argument, I will heere leaue them to the censure of the skilfull, and to those that to their cost haue made triall of them. Forasmuch as my intent is not so much to detect the folly of those unworthy Professors (which is palpable enough to euery one) as to entreat

of the Art it selfe, reducing all that I intend to speake in commendation thereof, vnto these three heads:

- $\left. \begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ To the Antiquity.} \\ 2 \text{ To the Excellency.} \\ 3 \text{ To the Diversity.} \end{array} \right\} \text{ thereof.}$

1 Part.

*Ioseph. lib. 1.
de Antiquitat.*

First for the Antiquity of it. Some affirme that the vse of this Art, was found out in the very infancy of the world: and that *Enoch* the seuenth from *Adam* had skill therein: for (*Iosephus* credibly reports, that one of the Prophecies which *Enoch* wrote on pillars of stone, remained euen in his time; or at least some ruine thereof. But others doe ascribe those Pillars to *Serb*, who liued before *Enoch*. Howsoeuer, if it were but as ancient as the Law, it carries with it age enough.

As for the Art of *Printing*, which came vp but yesterday (in comparison) and is now in much request, that can no way blemish the Art of *Writing*, for as much as *Writing* is the President, by which *Printing* is effected, and therefore the more worthy: For as wee say in *Arithmetick*, *Out of the greater the lesser is deducted*: So that that whence the deduction is made, is greater then the deduction it selfe.

I shall

I shall not neede to argue much vpon the *Antiquity* of this Art, in regard of the vniuersall knowledge thereof. What worthy and notable acts were heretofore done by any, eyther Diuine, Moral, Legal, or Martial, but were reserued to after ages by the meanes of *Writing*? And I wonder how wee should euer haue attained to any kinde of learning, had wee not had the scrolles of our learned forefathers to peruse and looke into, as also the holy Scriptures, *In quibus sunt omnes thesauri sapientie ac scientie reconditi?*

The next thing to be entreated of, is the Excellency of the Art of a *Part*. *Writing*, which doth euidently appeare in these two things.

First, in the earnest desire that all men for the most part haue to attain vnto it : for those things which are rare and delectable are sought for and pursued of all men, that's a rule in Nature : Now the Art of *Writing* is a most excellent and delectable Art, and therefore of all men much desired.

Secondly, the Excellency appeares in the Necessity thereof: for it is necessary for all (you know) to write; and those that cannot, finde what a multitude of inconueniences doe come vpon them, for the want of it. And herein (by the way) suffer me not to giue conuinnence to that vngrounded opinion of many, who affirme *Writing* to bee altogether vnecessary for women. If by it many foule businesses are contracted

1 *Desiderio.*

2 *Necessitate.*

An answer to a common objection.

contracted, and thereby much hurt effected: Is this to be laid vpon the Art it selfe? Or is not rather the ill disposition of those to be charged heere with, who make it the instrument, whereby they bring to passe euill actions? For not the vse, but the abuse of a thing is it which makes it odious. If it were otherwise, why then foule imputations may be laid vpon the best vertues, which of themselves are immaculate.

To be brieft, the Art of *Writing* is so excellent, and of such necessary vse, that none ought to be without some knowledge therein, since the excellency of no Art without it can be made knowne or manifested. And if any Art be commendable in a woman, (I speake not of their ordinary workes wrought with the needle, wherein they excell) it is this of *Writing*; wherby they, commonly hauing not the best memories (especially concerning matters of moment) may commit many worthy and excellent things to Writing, which may, occasionally, minister vnto them matter of much solace.

Hereby also the secrets that are, and ought to be, betweene Man and Wife, Friend and Friend, &c. in eyther of their absences, may be confined to their owne priuacy, which (amongst other things) is not the meanest dignity.

Lastly, the practise of this Art is so necessary for women, and consequently

sequently so excellent, that no woman suruiuing her husband, and who hath an estate left her, ought to be without the vse thereof, at least in some reasonable manner: For thereby she comes to a certainty of her estate, without trusting to the reports of such as are vsually employed to looke into the same: whereas otherwise for want of it, she is subiect to the manifold deceits now vsed in the world, and by that meanes plungeth her selfe into a multitude of inconueniences.

Wherefore their opinion who would barre women from the vse of this excellent faculty of *Writing*, is vtterly lame, and cannot by force of argument be maintained.

And although the *Excellency* of this Art (to speake of the curiosity thereof) be somewhat shadowed by the dulnes of some Mechanicall spirits, who seldome haue skill in any thing, out of their owne element, that thinke *writing* to be onely a hand-labour, and so they can write to keepe a dirty shop-booke, they care for no more; neuer esteeming the commendable manner of faire and orderly *Writing*, which ought in all businesses to be obserued, as well in keeping of bookes for Merchants, and others, as in all kinde of engrossments, appertaining to the Law, &c: Yet notwithstanding the splendor and grace of *writing* shineth most excellently in the scrolls of skilfull Artists,

tists, as in the writing of some may appeare to them that haue insight.

And what should I say of the Excellency of this Art? Is it not one of the hands by which not onely this, but all other Common-wealths are vpholden? The key which opens a passage to the descrying and finding out of innumerable treasures? The handmaid to memory? The Register and Recorder of all Arts? and the very Mouth whereby a man familiarly conferreth with his friend, though the distance of thousands of miles be betwixt them?

Infinite other things might be spoken concerning the *Excellency* of this Art of *Writing*; and where I faile in the setting forth thereof, assist me with your manifold imaginations.

3 Part.

The 3^d & last thing to be discussed of in commendation of this Art, is the Diuersity thereof. I meane the diuers kindes of *hands* which are now vsed among vs. For although they all go vnder the name of writing; yet they are to be distinguished according to the diuersity of them; Howbeit my purpose is not to clog my discourse with an enumeration of euery idle hand that may be written; for that were absurd, and out of the element of a Pen-man. I wil only entreat of those which are the principall; and wherein the most Art, the greatest curiosity, and the rarest dexterity of the Artist is to be manifested: and they are these which follow, *viz.*

1 Secretary

- 1 *Secretary.*
- 2 *Bastard Secretary, or Text.*
- 3 *Roman.*
- 4 *Italian.*
- 5 *Cours.*
- 6 *Chancery.*

Of each of which I will briefly speake somewhat, onely by way of distinction, in regard I would not willingly weary the Reader with superfluous circumstances, or deteine him long from that which followeth.

For the first, *viz:* the *Secretary*, which is so tearmed (as I con- *Secretary.*
ceiue) partly because it is the Secretaries common hand, and partly also because it is the onely vsuall hand of England, for dispatching of all manner of busineses for the most part, whatsoeuer.

I might adde hereunto the super-excellency of this hand, in respect of any other hand; for that the very denomination thereof, imports some things in it that are not easily to be found out. And true it is, that whosoever doth practise it (according to the true nature of it) shall perceiue therein many secret and subtile passages of the hand, *Secretarius à*
which few, but those that haue beene wel grounded therein by a true *Secretis.*

Artist, are able to comprehend: but I affect breuity.

To speake of the kindes of *Secretary*, is (in these dayes) no easie matter: for some haue deuised many, and those so strange and disguised; that there is hardly any true straine of a right Secretary in them. For mine owne part, I make distinction betweene the *Sett*, *Fancie*, and *Fast hands*, of which three I shall (God willing) by and by propose some few examples.

3 *Bastard Secretary.*

The next is *Bastard Secretary*, and so named by the best, because it is gotten of the *Secretary*, as those that haue any skill may perceiue. This is a *hand* not so vsuall as the former; yet of great validity, and for diuers purposes exceeding gracefull; as for Engrossements, Epitaphs for Tombes, Titles of Bookes, and many other vses, which would be too tedious for me heere to recite.

3 *Roman.*

The third is *Roman*, which hath his denomination from the place where (it seemes) it was first written, viz: *Rome*. A hand of great account, and of much vse in this Realme, especially in the *Uniuersities*: and it is conceiued to be the easiest hand that is written with Pen, and to bee taught in the shortest time: Therefore it is vsually taught to women, for as much as they (hauing not the patience to take any great paines, and besides phantasticall and humorfome) must bee taught that which they may instantly learne; otherwise they are vncertaine

certaine of their proceedings, because their mindes are (vpon light occasions) easly drawne from their first resolution.

The fourth is *Italian*, a *hand* in nature not much different from *Ro-* 4 *Italian*
man, but in manner and forme, of much incongruity thereunto. This
is a *hand* which of late is growne very vsuall, and is much affected by
diuers: for indeede, it is a most excellent and curious *hand*, and to be
written with singular command of hand; else it will appeare but ve-
ry ragged and vile; and if the Pen be taken off in coniunction of the
letters, it is neyther approueable; nor Pen-man-like, but meere bot-
ching, which is detestable.

The fift is *Court hand*; so called, for that it is of great vse in those 5 *Courts*.
two famous Courts of the *Kings Bench* and *Common Pleas*. It is a *hand*
somewhat difficult to write well, and hee that continually writes it;
may haply come to perfection in that; but for other hands (if hee
could write neuer so many) let him neuer looke to write any of them
well: for it is able to marre them all. I am not reasonlesse in this opi-
nion, but able (vnto any that please) to produce the cause.

The last is *Chancery*, which euery man knowes to be written no 6 *Chancery*
where but in the *High Court of Chancery*, and in other Offices, which
haue reference thereunto. I am of opinion, that this hand being well
written, is far more gracefull then the *Court*, and equally difficult.

It hath a kinde of mixture of the *Court* and *Bastard Secretary* in it, which any man iudgement may easily perceiue.

There are two kindes heereof, the *Sett* and *Fast*; the difference betweene them is not little, as they that are Clarkes well know.

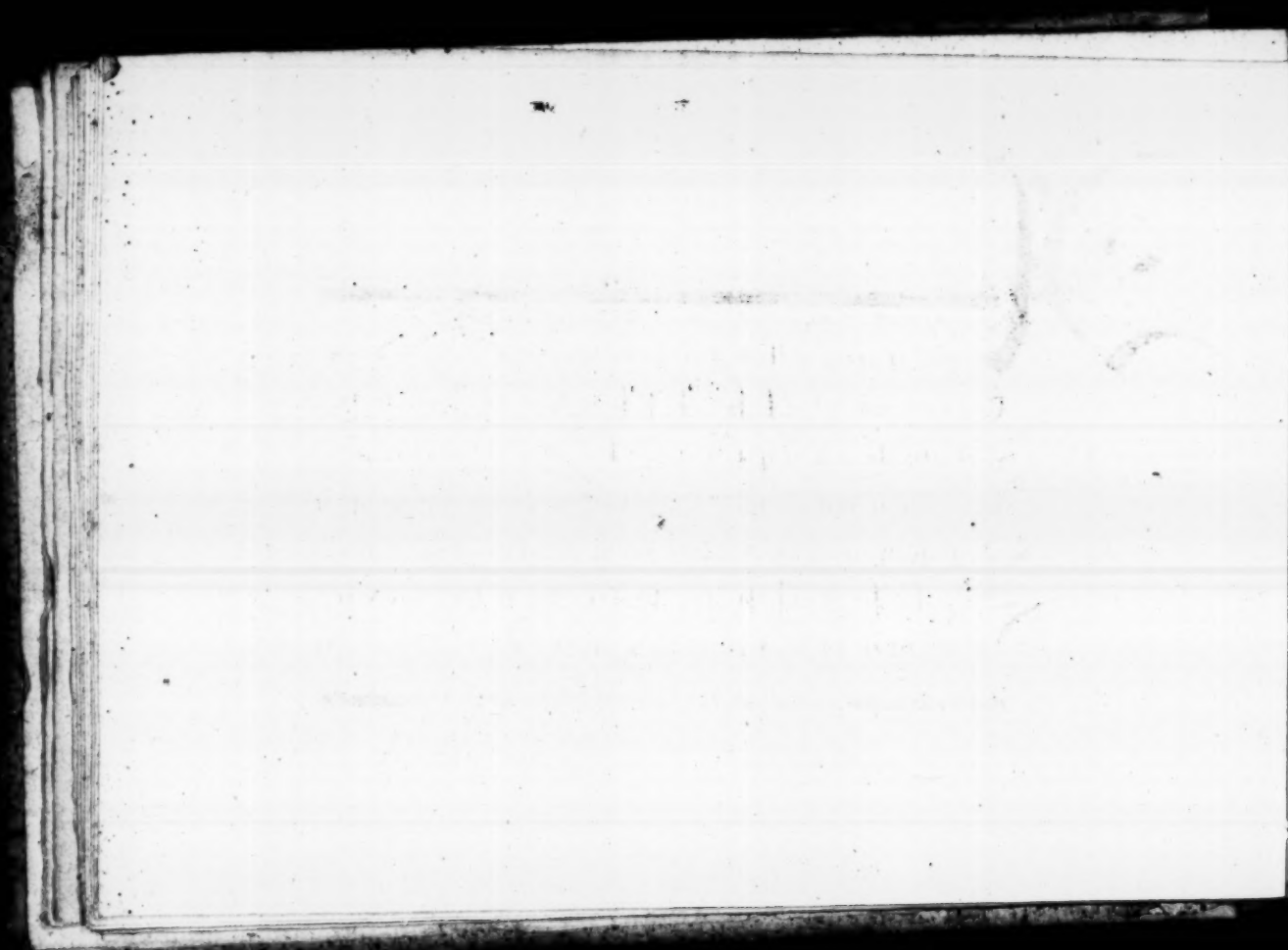
Thus much, or rather thus little, I thought good to deliuer, touching the *Antiquity*, *Excellency*, and *Diuersity* of the Art of *Writing*.

Now heere shall follow certaine peeces or examples of the five seuerall heads before mentioned; wherein I haue endeauoured to fit my selfe with extraordinary matter for Coppies; holding it an absurd thing in a good Pen-man to make choice of such fustian stuffe, as many doe, onely to set out their Coppies, and make the writing seeme gracefull to the eye. Also I haue laboured to be so perspicuous in the nature of euery hand, as that the meanest may imitate me, and reape some benefit by me.

Thus



a a a a a a b b b b b b t w n e d d d d s
C e e e e e f f f f f f q q q q q q h h
h h h h i i i i i i k k k k k k l l l l l l m m m m m m
n n n n n n o o o o o o p p p p p p q q
q q q q r r r r r r s s s s s s t t t t t t u u u u u u
v v v v v v w w w w w w x x x x x x y y y y y y z z z z z z





. d. d. d. z. z. z. c. c. c. d.
s. e. e. f. ff. ff. g. g. g. h. h. h.
i. i. i. j. k. k. k. l. l. l. m. m. m.
n. n. n. o. o. o. p. p. p. q. q. q.
r. r. r. s. s. s. t. t. t. u. u. u.
v. v. v. w. w. w. x. x. x. y. y. y.

—————

16

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—————

Emulacon of vertue

in great men is honourable. but of Greatnesse
beie daungerous; for many times it breaketh
the necke of one or both the Qualls: But it
never faileth of hindring their dutie and
faithfull service to their King & Countrey.

Emulatio et proximi exercitus gloria, segnitiam repulerat

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

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1879

1880

1881

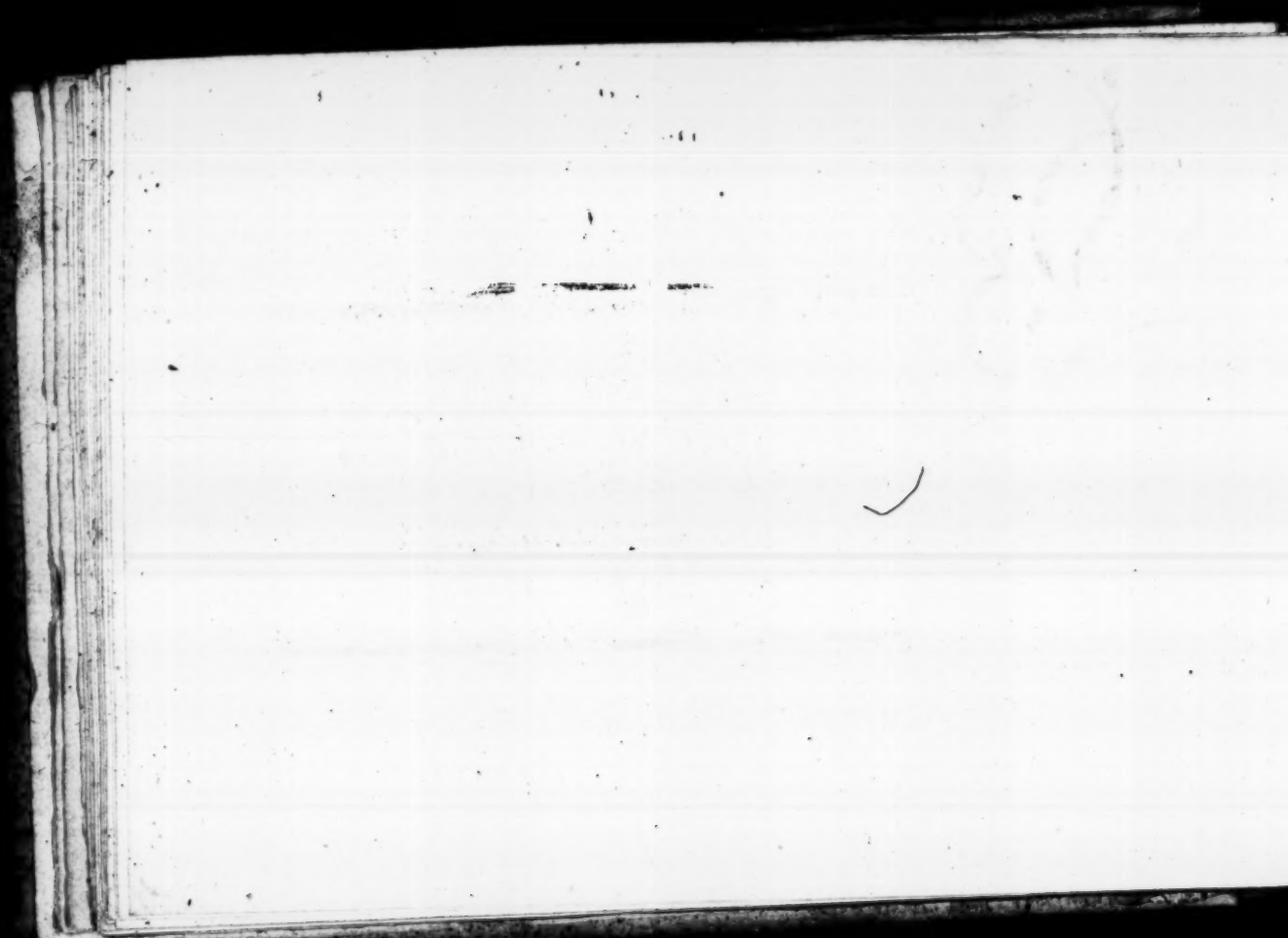
1882

1883



By Grate is Act into mans braine infused
By Act the hand each severall worke is taught
By Patientie comes the end of all things vnto
Without these three is no perfection wrought
Be Patient thou y^e secret Gen-mans skill
By Grate & Act so maist thou haue y^e will.

Gratia, arte, ac patientia omnia perficiuntur.



Recount not vp to the place of Honor lest
thou be made to come downe againe wth shame;
for prosperitie is more dangerous then aduer-
sitie and more perissh on the right hand of a
wound by pleasure the left hand of blowe dequie

Billingsley

Qui se exaltat humiliabitur

506

the first of the year
the first of the year
the first of the year
the first of the year
the first of the year

THE FIRST OF THE YEAR

nuident homines in a vine paribus

aut inferioribus, nam se scitatos sentiant, illos autem de lat. coelasse:
sed etiam superioribus invident saepe vehementer, et cetera. Si infelices
tantum se iactant, aequalitatem communis iucis prostantia diq-
nitatis aut fortune suae transmittit. In iudicio invidia imberitatis
esse debet: nihilque homini est tam timendum: quam invidia: et
invisum invidendi suscipit invidia tam exlandu, quam equum invidium.

Billingsley.

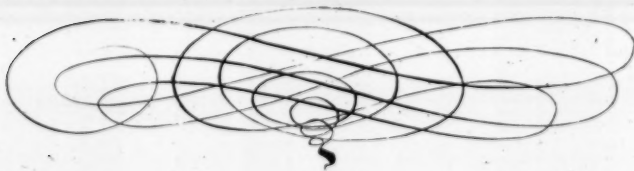
Invidia, virtute parva, gloria, non invidia putanda est.

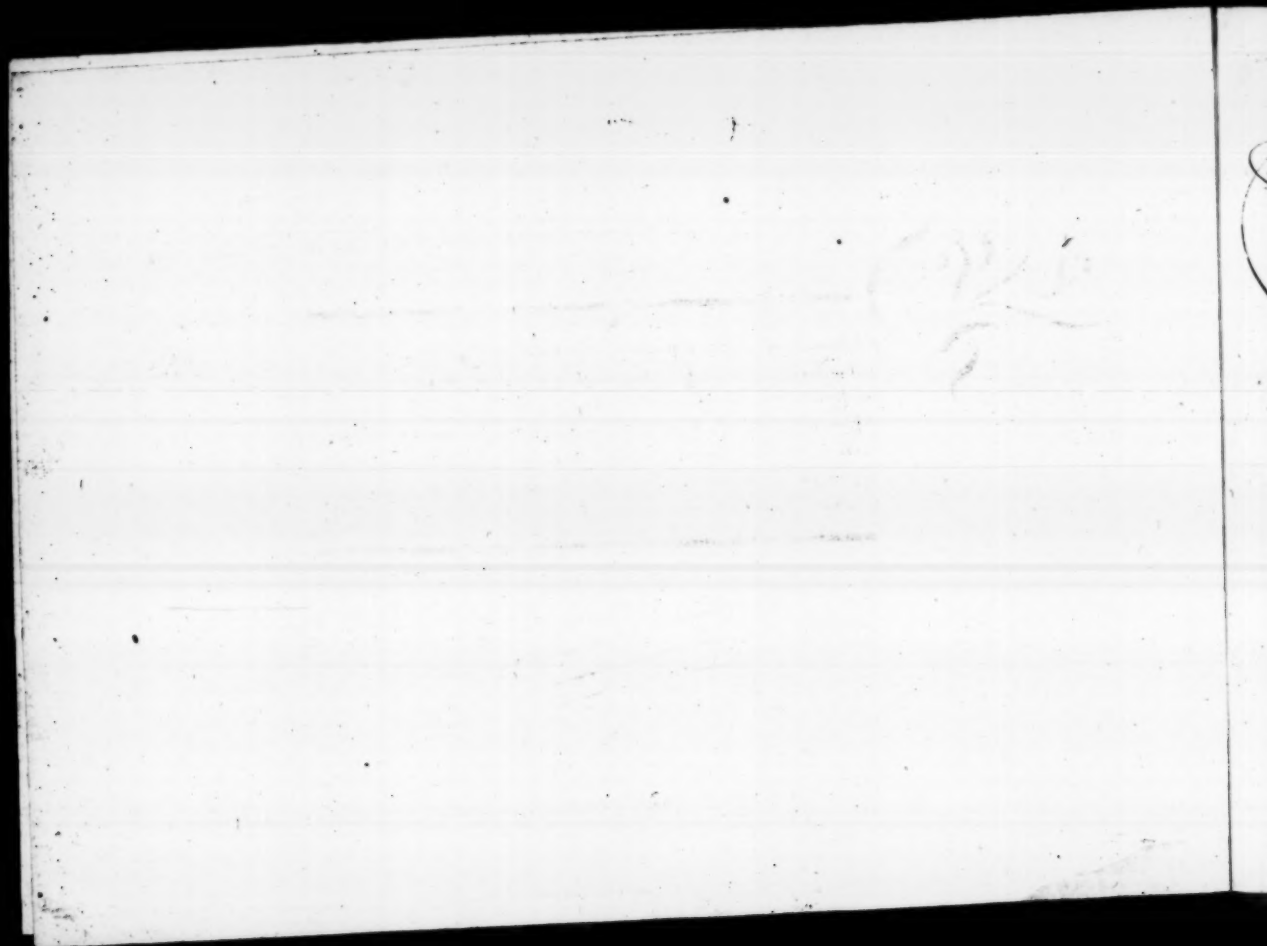
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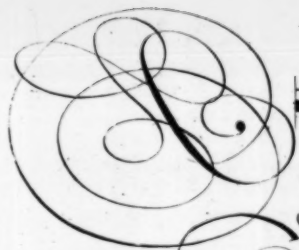


conditio in suis administrandis civitatum et provinciarum: in
quibus diligentia plena imitatum est negligentia vituperationum:
ubi severitas periculosa est liberalitas iniqua. Primo insidiosus cu
assensatio perniciosa, non omnium familiaris multorum amicus
invidiosus invidiosus occultus blandus aperte. Venientes praetores
expectant praesentibus inserviunt absentes deserunt Sunt qui
quod sentiant: etiamsi optimum est invidiosus metu non audent.

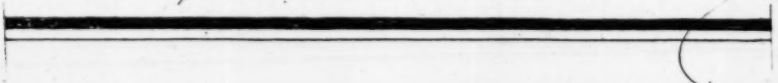
Lucius

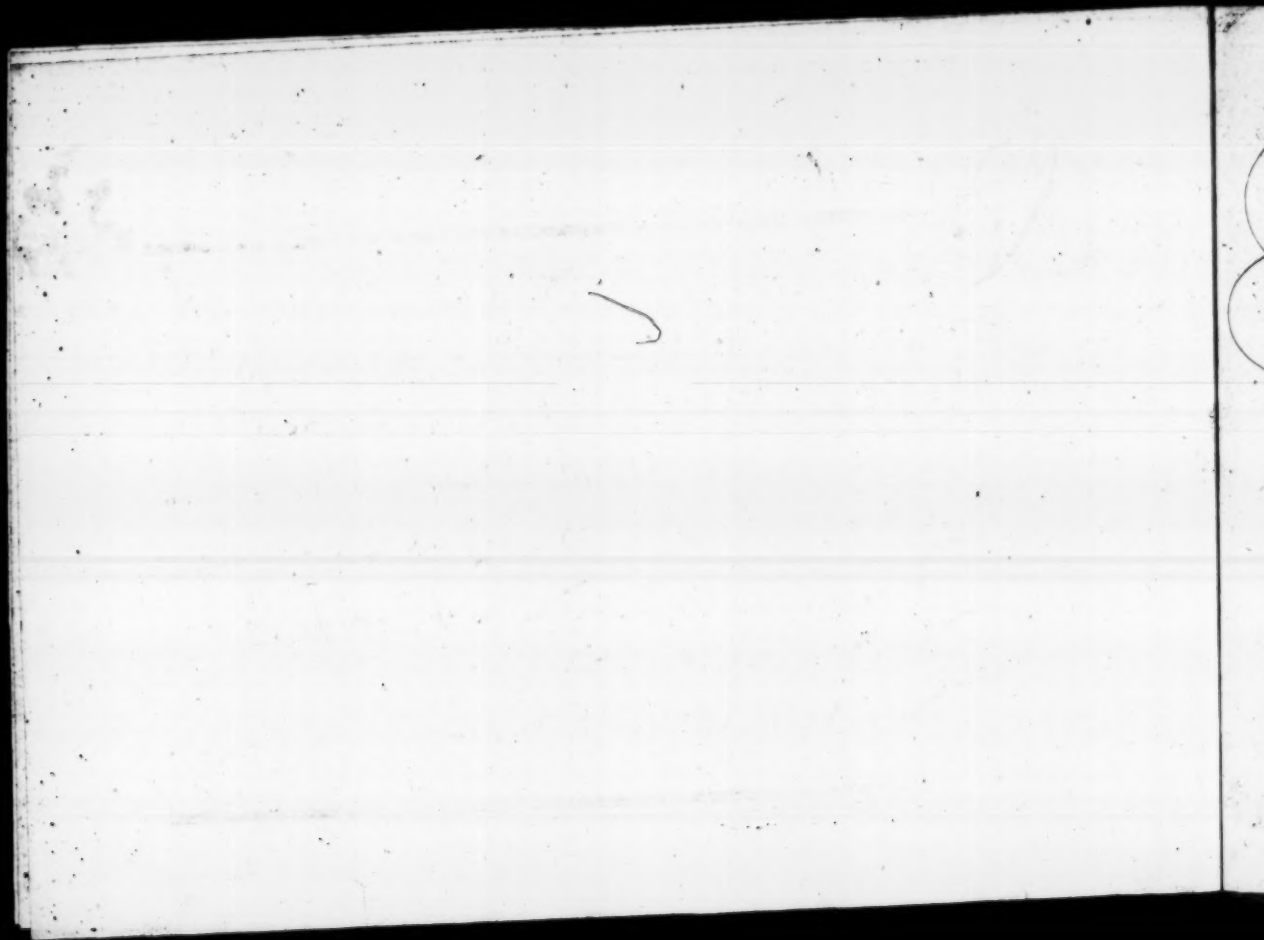






A. A. a. a. a. B. B. b. b. b. C. C. c. c. c. D. D.
d. d. d. d. d. E. E. e. e. e. F. F. f. f. f. G. G.
g. g. g. h. h. h. I. I. i. i. i. K. K. k. k. k. L. L.
l. l. l. m. m. m. N. N. n. n. n. O. O. o. o. o. P. P.
p. p. p. Q. Q. q. q. q. R. R. r. r. r. S. S. s. s. s.
T. T. t. t. t. U. U. u. u. u. V. V. v. v. v. W. W. w. w. w.
X. X. x. x. x. Y. Y. y. y. y. Z. Z. z. z. z.





Wee are naturallie given notwithstanding great vn-
worthines to saue a marvellous good content of o^r selues
& of o^r attend: And if so be we can perceiue any thing in
o^r selues to be neuer so little commendable or praiseworthy
wee presently stand on t^hernee, till wth a Trumpett wee
shalt be blowne forth & proclaimed o^r worthines of o^r defects.

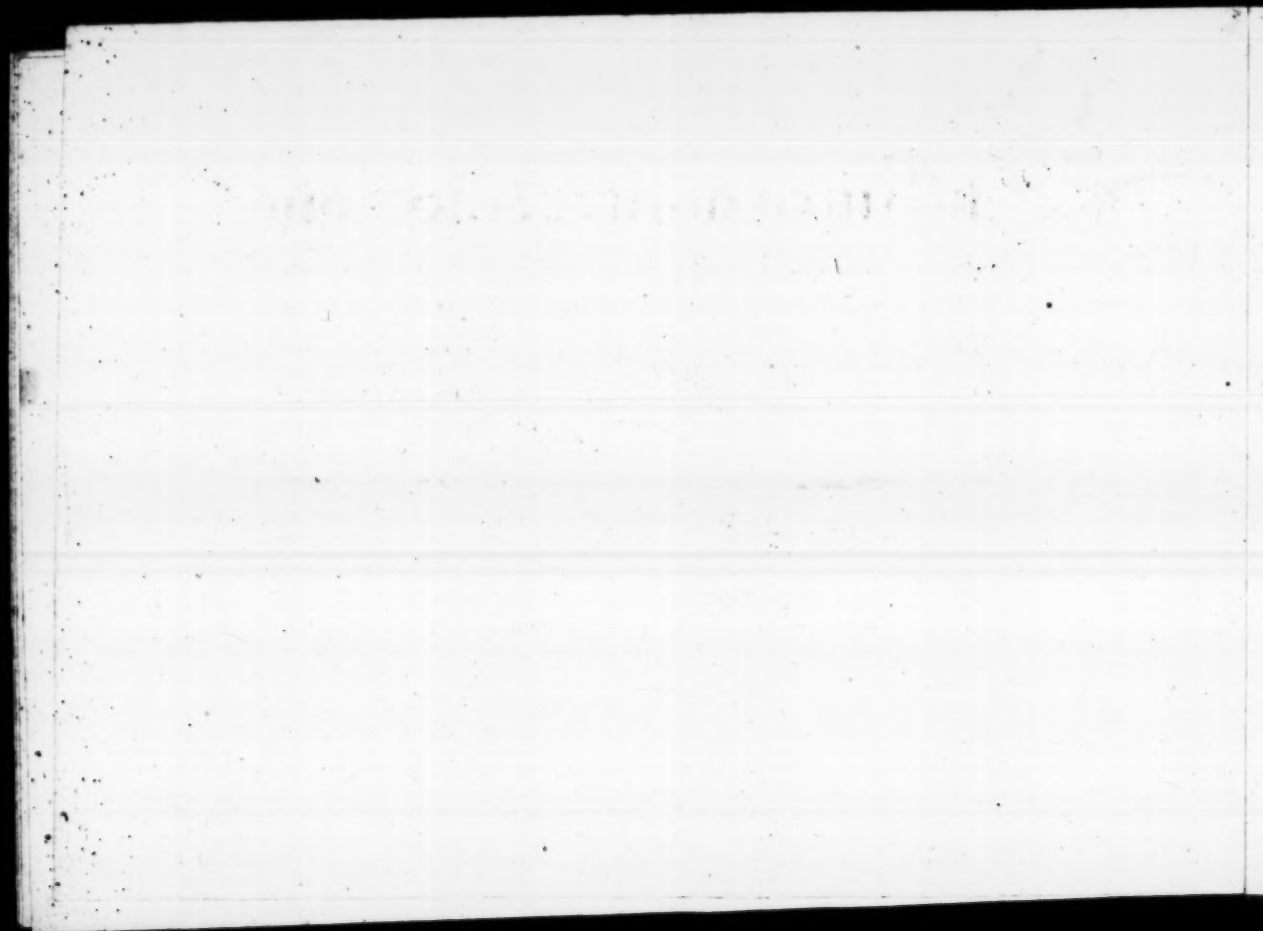
Panam arrogantie effugit nemo sua ➤




Such men as are comodious

to none but onlie to themselves are not worthy to be conuicted or
esteemed in a Common wealtie. For wee are not borne for our
selues but for our Countrey; and wee ought not by any meanes
to preferre our owne private before the publique good, nor our
particular profitt before the generall Commoditie of our Countrey.

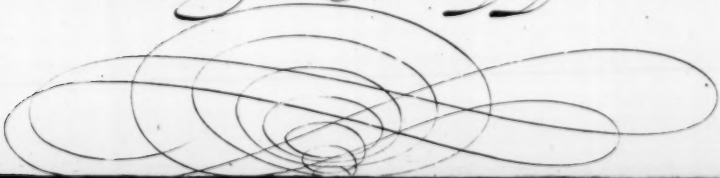
Non nobis solum nati sumus.





Assured is obnoxious to all manner of ambush & surprisings.
it is soft at sands, but firme at length: and having vented
the first furie, dieth like a waspe that hath lost her sting.
Wherefore men must looke before they leave, & consider
the damage before they runne into it: least as they goe
on to small losses, they come off wth lesse gaine.

Peccat peno necessario qui festinat

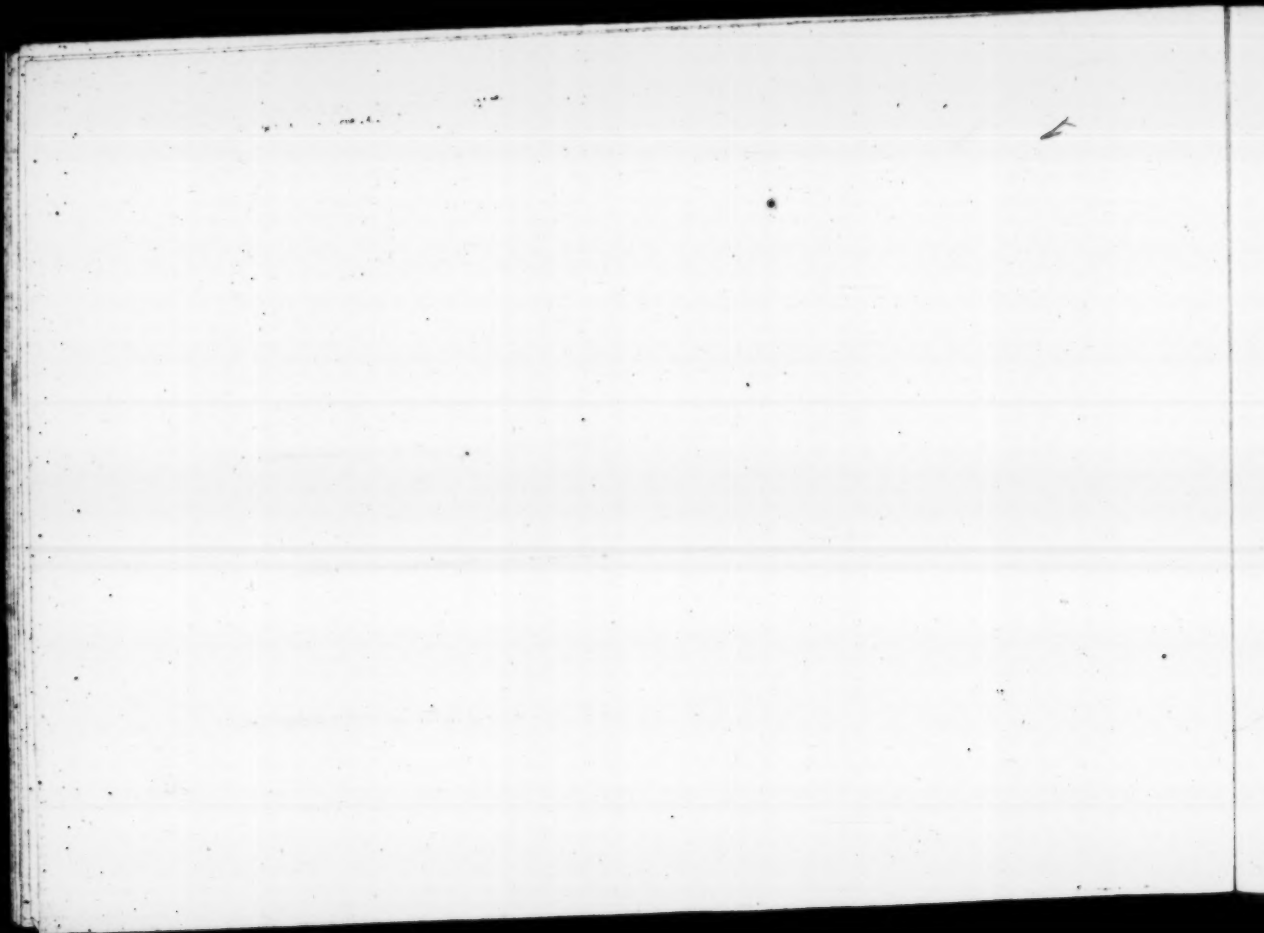




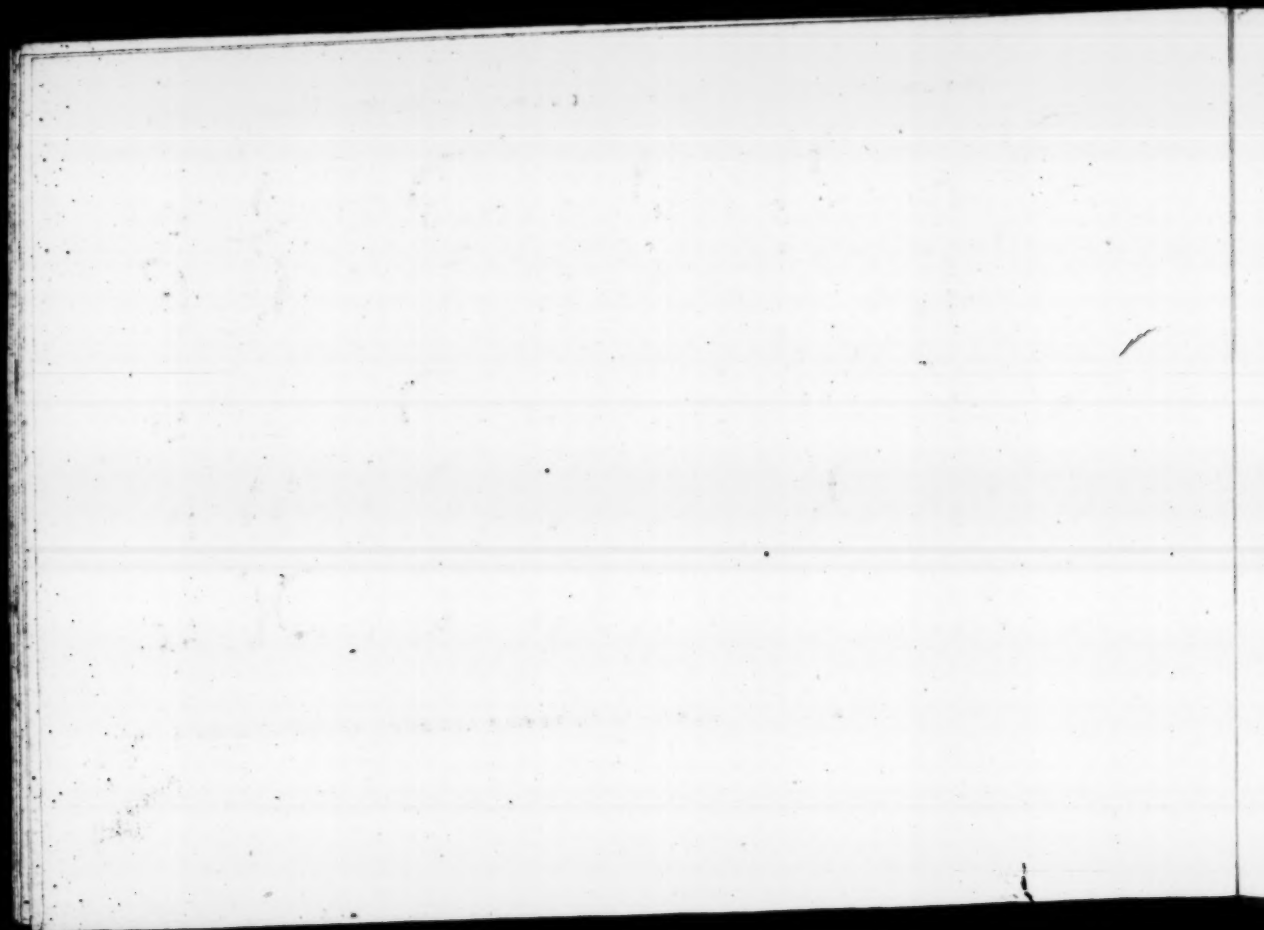
The tongue & the hands are vniuſſe members, vnto none ſit, & reaſon ſaith not y^e
 euery of them. The tongue is allowed y^e more vnder: but the hands in the id^e
 y^e more damperous: that what is ſpoken may be ſelected, by ſuppoſition of miſe
 taking, or diſagreement in the report, or deat: whereas that of the hands
 appereth to vſeritie: ſuruiues y^e ſpeech & heare, & remaine as a ſouſand
 y^e time ſeet

Vox audita preit, sed littera scripta manebit

a. a. b. c. d. e. f. g. h. i. j. k. l. m. n. o. p. q. r. s. t. u. v. w. x. y. z.



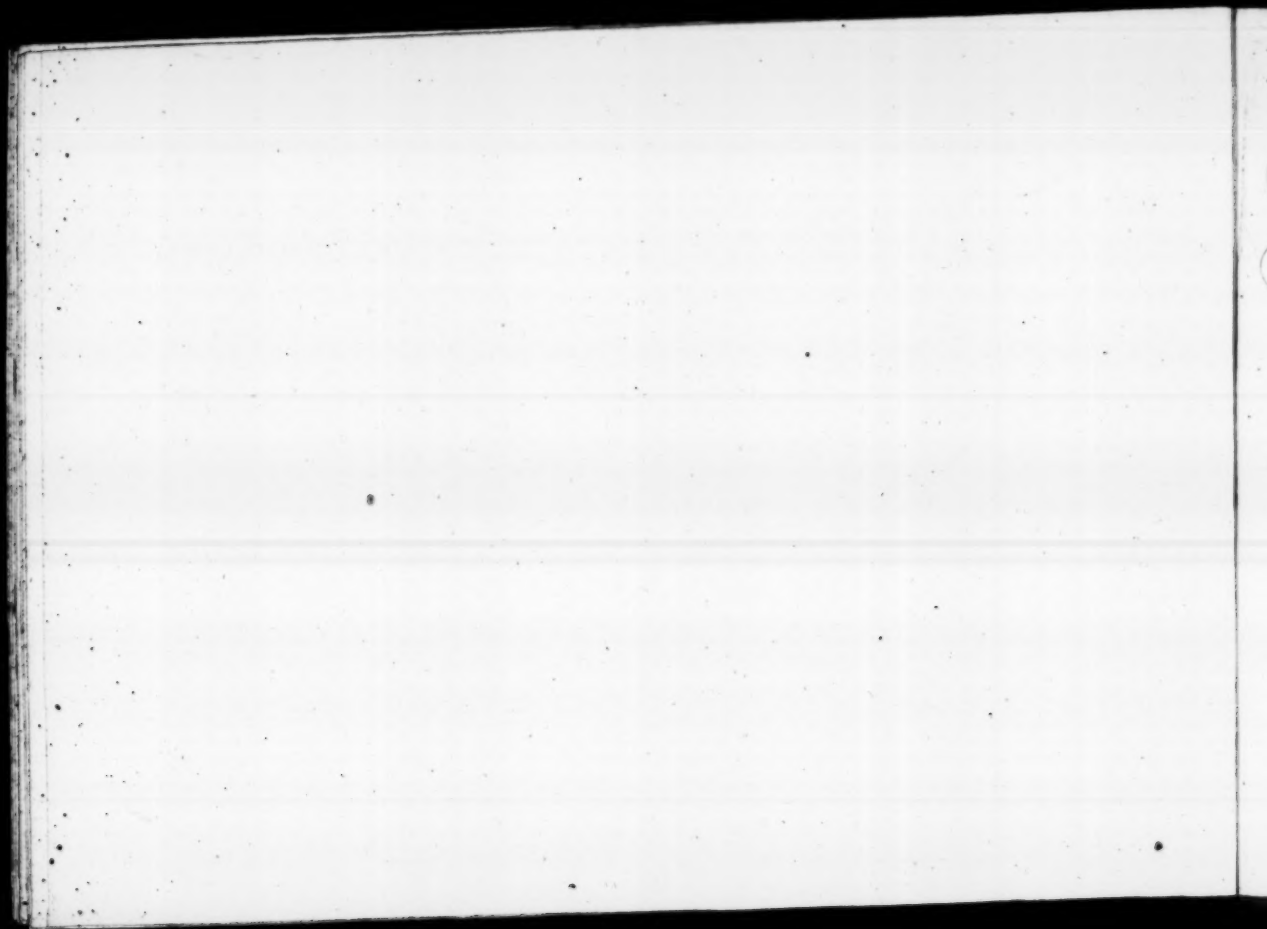
A. a. B. b. C. c. D. d. E. e.
F. f. G. g. H. h. I. i. K. k.
L. l. M. m. N. n. O. o. P. p.
Q. q. R. r. S. s. T. t. V. v.
W. w. X. x. Y. y. Z. z. A. sc.



The report of yo^r good fortune coming to my knowledge, I
doubt not but take occasion hereby to praise God & reioyce
wth yo^r therein; hoping y^e ad my affection move^s mee to
write: so it will please yo^r to accept y^e same in good pte.
& remember to continue mee in y^e number of y^ere voors.
wellwisher, y^e am better willing then able to doe yo^r service.

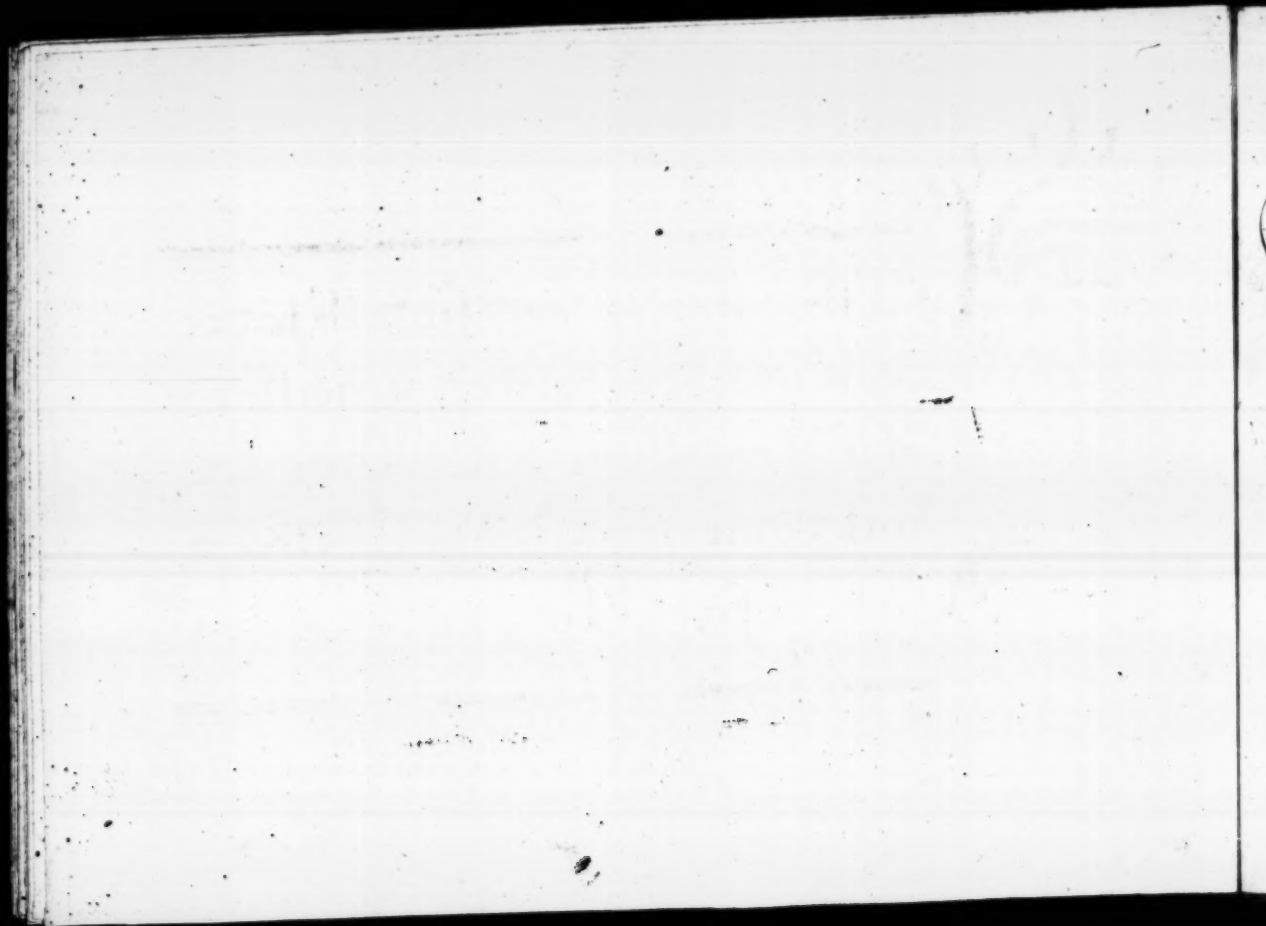
yo^r till. I am ready to be p^rid crowne.

Martin Billingsley



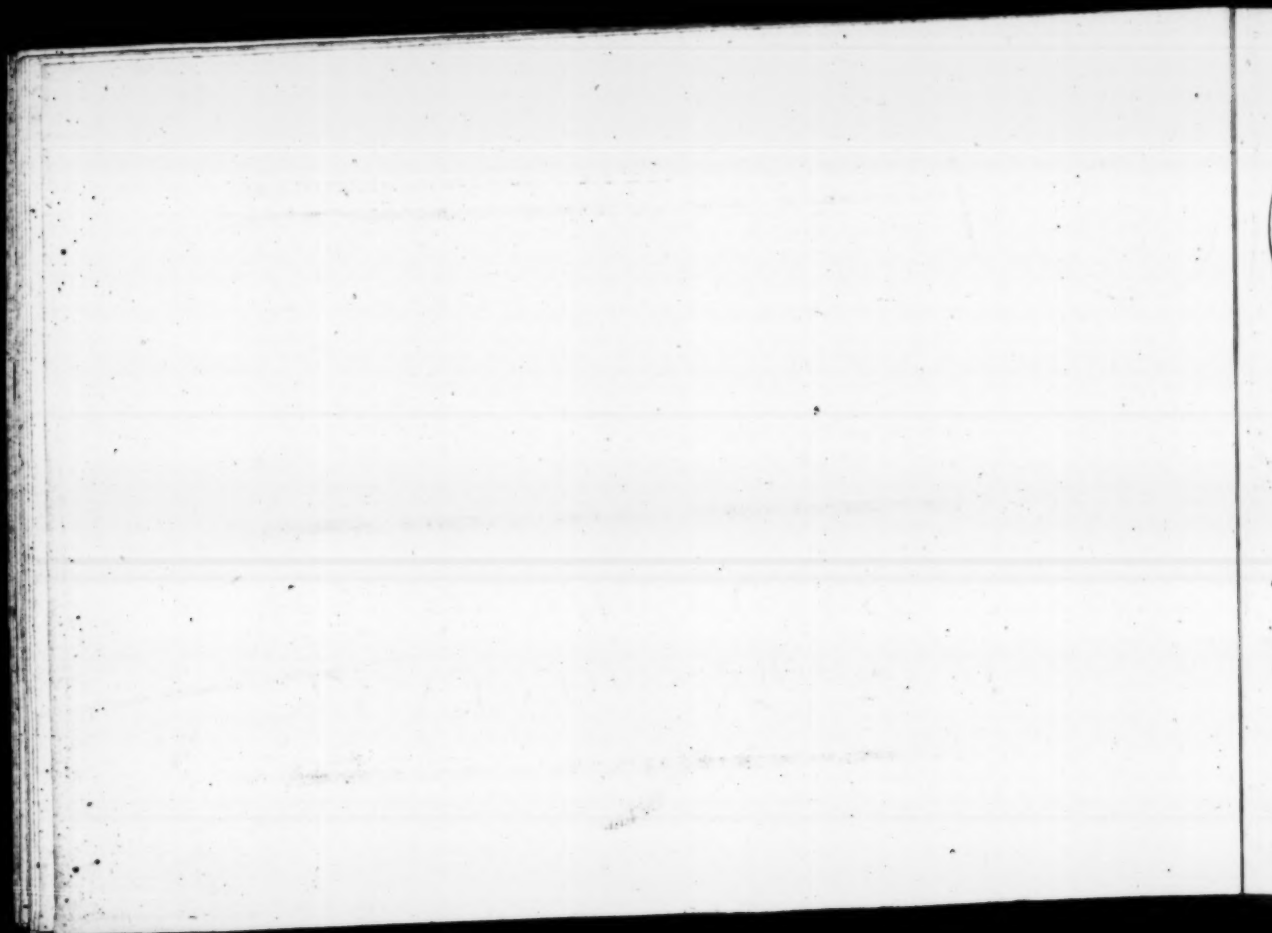


ll that thine hand findeth to doe.
doe it quicklie: for there is neither
Art. Invention. Knowledge. nor
Wisdom in y^e Graue whither y^e
A b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y ^z quest.



A a a a a . b . b . b . b . c . c . c . c . d . d . d . d . e . e . e . e . f . f . f . f . g . g . g . ~
g . g . g . h . h . h . h . i . i . i . i . j . k . k . k . k . l . l . l . l . m . m . m . m . m . n . ~
n . n . n . n . o . o . o . o . p . p . p . p . q . q . q . q . r . r . r . r . s . t . t . t .
t . t . t . t . t . t . v . v . v . u . u . u . m . w . m . v . x . x . x . y . y . y . z . z . z .

A . B . C . D . E . F . G . H . I . K . L . M .
N . O . P . Q . R . S . T . V . W . X . Y . Z



When an humour is Strong and predominant, it not onlie converteth his proper nutriment, but euen that which is apt for contrarie humours, into it owne nature and qualitie. Of like force is a Strong and wilfull Desire, in the minde of man: For it nott only feeds vpon agreeable motions, but makes euen those reasons, which are Strong against it, to be mast for it.

Ager animus, falsa pro veris videt.

1878

1878

1878

nemadmodum secularum gradus si alios tollas, alias incidas, non
nullas male herentes relinquant, ruine periculum Aruas.

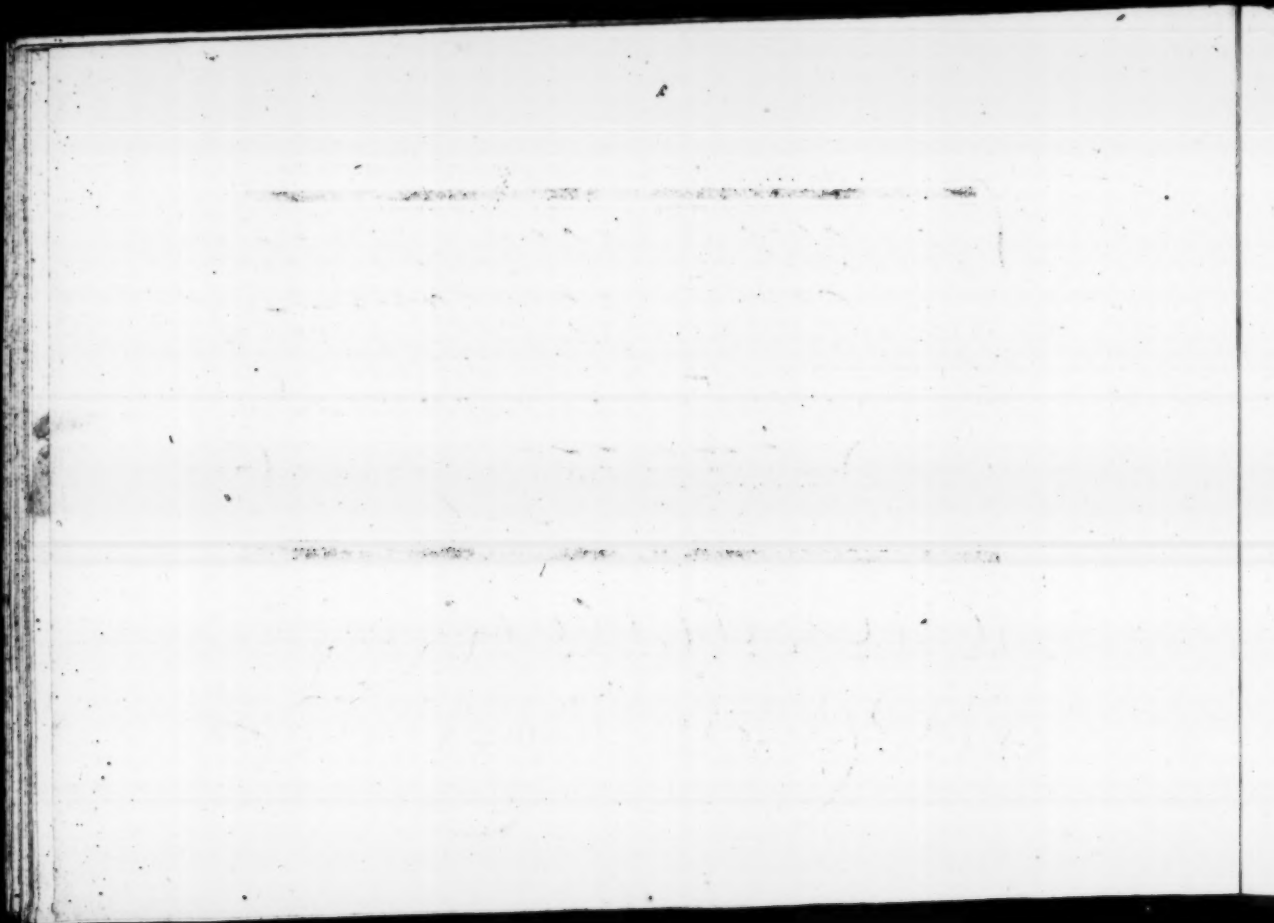
non ascensum pares: Sic tot malis, tum
victum tum fractum Audium Scri-
bendi, quid dignum auribus, aut
probabile pote. Afferre.

Scribendi Audium, tranquillum, perturbatum sit



A. a. a. a. b. b. b. b. c. c. c. c. d. d. d. d. e. e. e. e. f. f. f. f.
g. g. g. g. h. h. h. h. i. i. i. i. j. j. j. j. k. k. k. k. l. l. l. l. m. m. m. m.
n. n. n. n. o. o. o. o. p. p. p. p. q. q. q. q. r. r. r. r. s. s. s. s. t. t. t. t.
u. u. u. u. v. v. v. v. w. w. w. w. x. x. x. x. y. y. y. y. z. z. z. z. G.

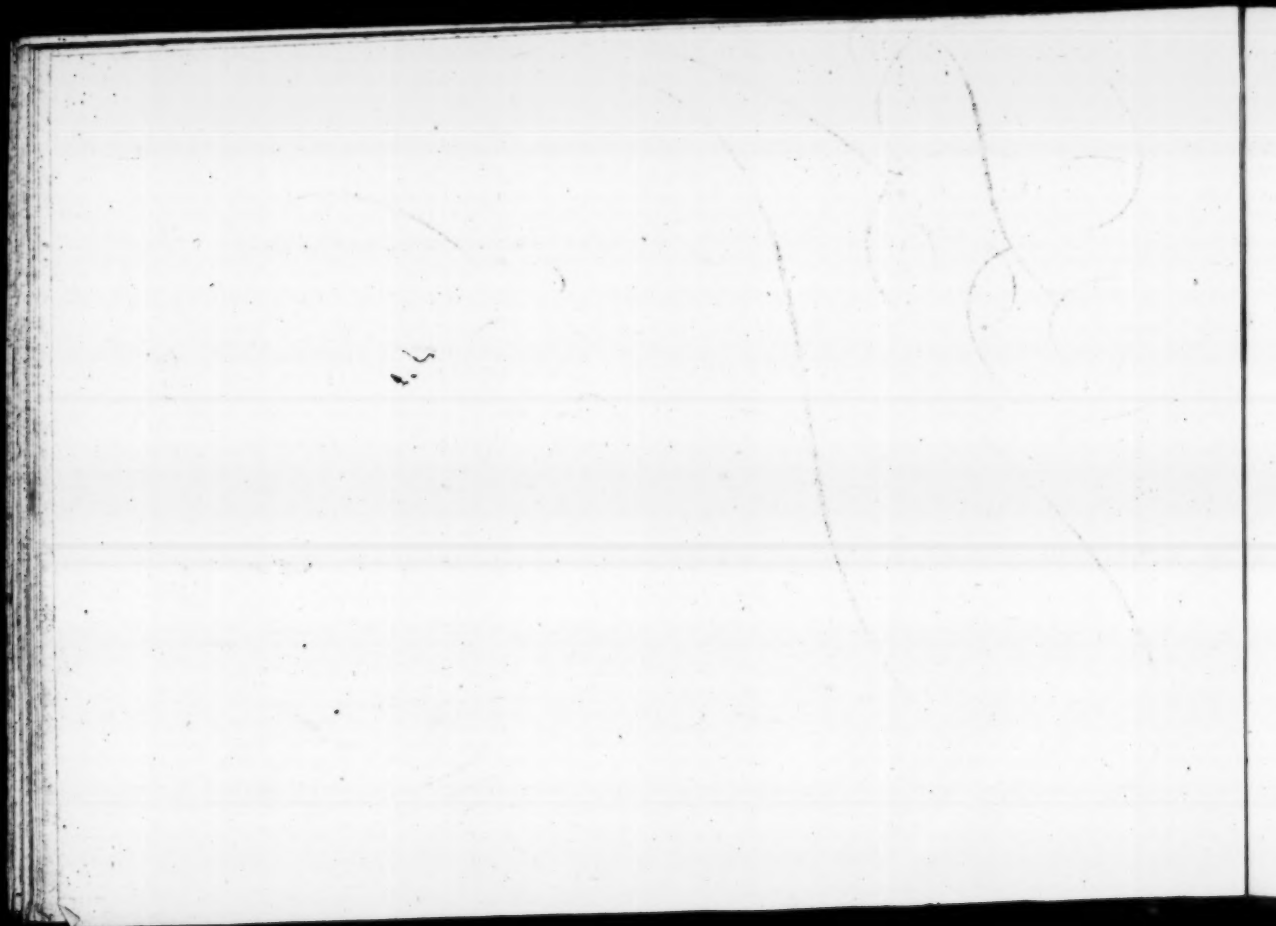
A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. L. M. N.
O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z.



Come auuiene a un fiume che mentre corre entiero
et con tutta l'acqua in un Letto fa con grandissimo
impeto il suo corso et spaventa le città benedice
benissime murate ma se si divide in piu parti.
perde la forza C'è passato à quazze Tegni uine.
Cosi appunto lo sforzo d'un Esercito. C'è.

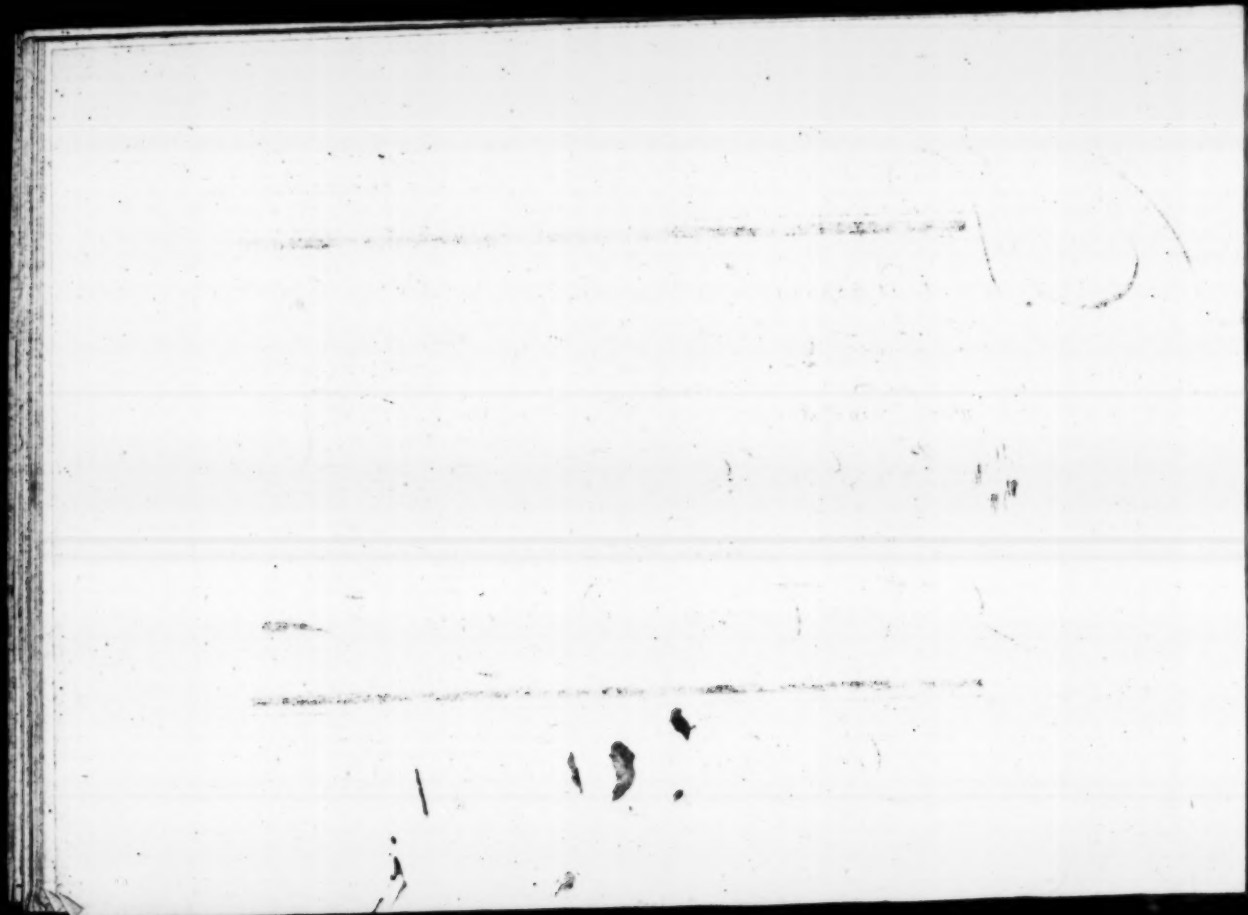
1848

en heureux. A l'homme qui trouve sagesse
et qui abonde en prudence. Meilleur. A l'ac-
quisition d'icelles: que les marchandises d'or
et d'argent: car ses fruits sont les premiers
et trespurs. A b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q
r s t s s t t t v u x x y z z V. Gc.



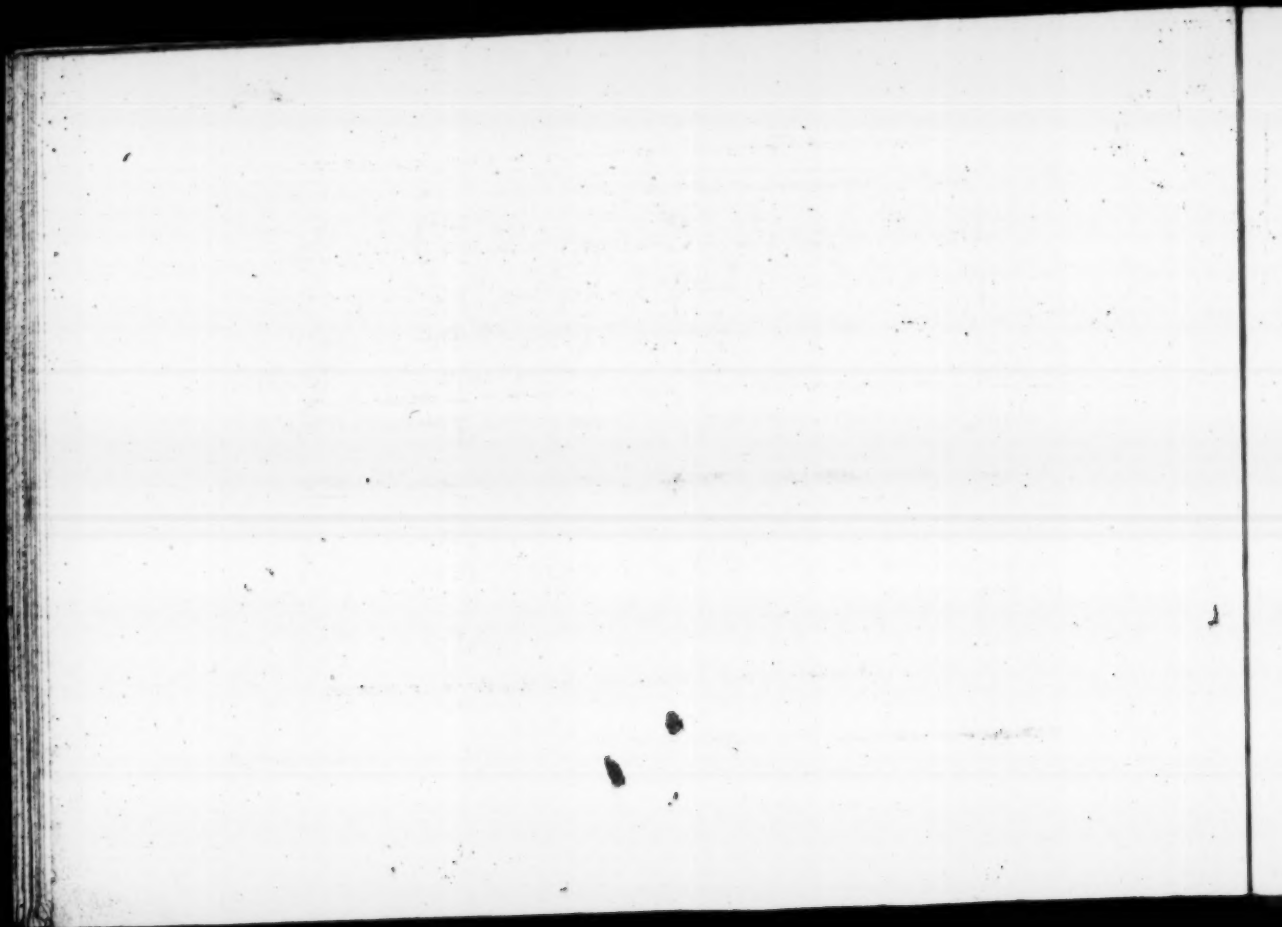
He that propoundes a matter to his inward freind would
be advised. He that imparts a resolved business, &
would have it concealed. In the first case; the Coun-
sellor must unlooke his heart: in the other he must
seale up his lips. For it is dangerous to be of a
Great mans Counsaile: and nott to keepe it.

Gran silentio & gran pondosa sententia



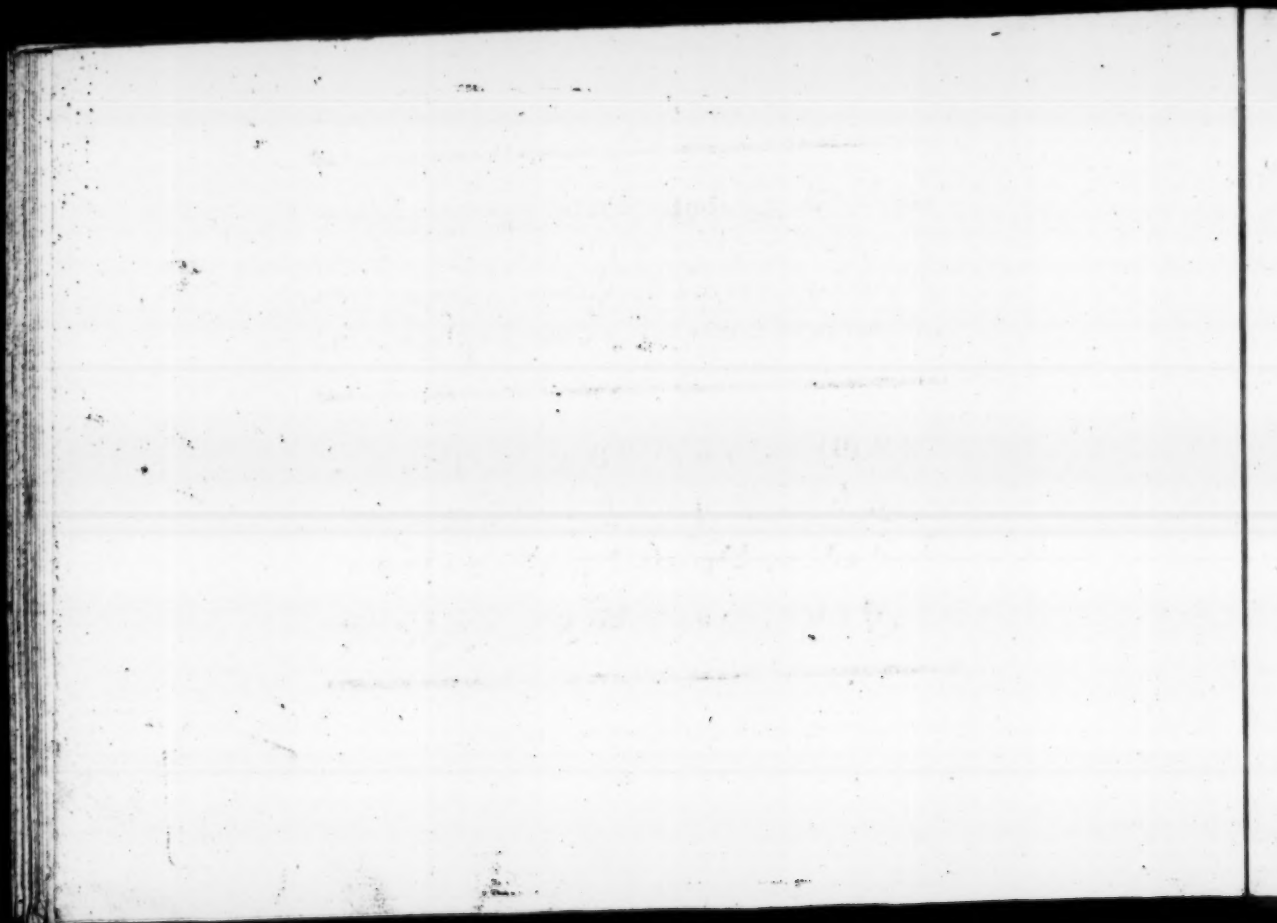
Robertus Holmes & Johannes Vanempeze & Johannes Embey Actum
 om pot offo. In honore Williamson dno mesuagio dno cottagio dno testat
 vni columbay dno gaphito centum & quinquaginta aqas tpo viginti
 aqas pastus decem aqas bosa viginti aqas rampi tpo decem
 aqas more viginti aqas mayst & coram pastus pominodi anno et

A. a. a. b. b. c. c. d. d. e. e. f. f. f. f. g. g. h. h. i. i.
 k. k. l. l. m. m. n. n. o. o. p. p. q. q. r. r. s. s.
 t. t. u. u. v. v. w. w. x. x. y. y. z. z.



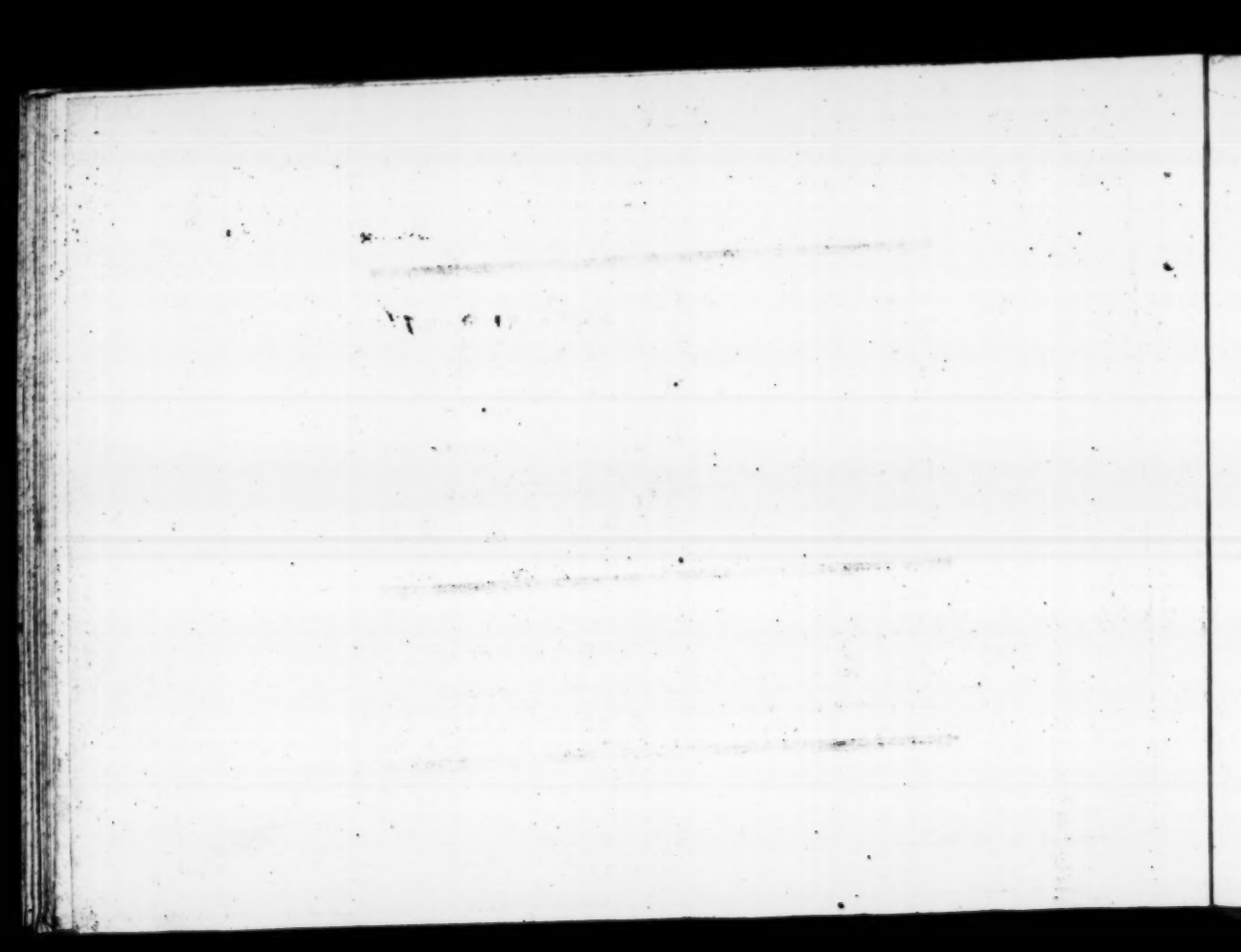
Iacobus dei gratia Anglie Scocie ffantie & hibernie
 Rex fidei defensor etc. Vir london salutem. Tibi
 precipimus quod attacti per hunc Johansen humilissimi quatuor
 quod cum hactenus totum nobis in Cantuariam in etc.

A. a. a. B. b. C. c. d. D. d. d. E. e. e. f. f. f. ~
 G. g. g. h. h. h. i. i. j. k. k. k. l. l. l. m. m. m.
 N. n. n. O. o. o. p. p. p. q. q. q. r. r. r. s. s. s.
 t. t. t. u. u. u. v. v. v. w. w. w. x. x. x.



Α. α. α. Β. β. β. Γ. γ. γ. Δ. δ. δ.
 Ε. ε. ε. Ζ. ζ. ζ. Η. η. η. Θ. θ. θ.
 Ι. ι. ι. Κ. κ. κ. Λ. λ. λ. Μ. μ. μ.
 Ν. ν. ν. Ξ. ξ. ξ. Ο. ο. ο. Π. π. π. π.
 Ρ. ρ. ρ. Σ. σ. σ. σ. σ. Τ. τ. τ. Υ. υ. υ.
 Φ. φ. φ. Χ. χ. χ. Ψ. ψ. ψ. Ω. ω. ω. Δ. δ.

Οὕτω γὰρ ἡγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν ἑἰ-
 αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενή ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων
 εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται, ἀλλ' ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.



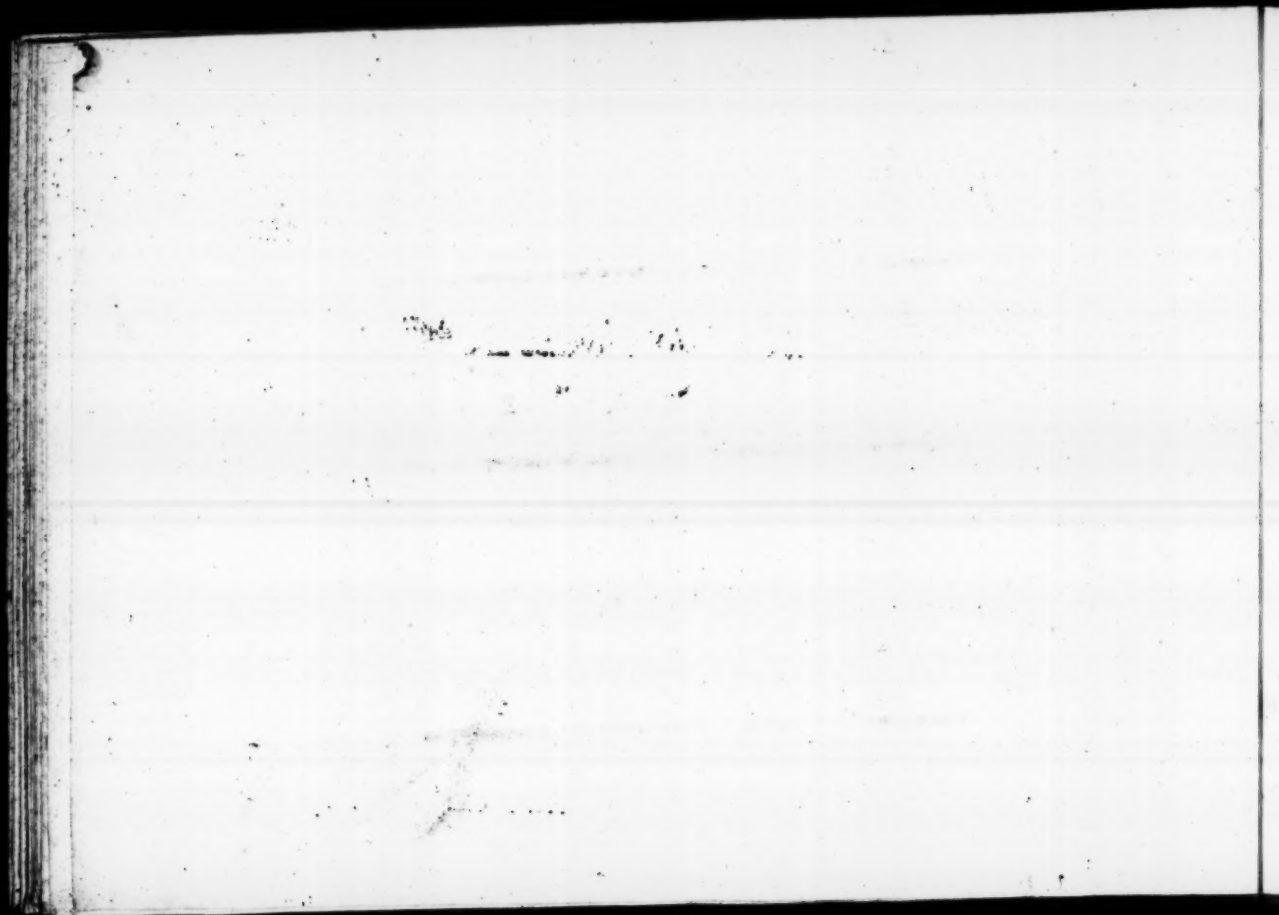
א. ב. ג. ד. ה. ו. ז. ח. ט. י. כ. ל. מ. נ. ס. ז. ט.

כ. ע. פ. צ. ק. ר. ש. ש. ה.

יְחֹהֵא לֹא גָבַהּ לְבִי וְלֹא רָמִי שִׁנִּי וְלֹא הִכְבֵּיתִי

בְּגִדֵּי קֹדֶשׁ יִבְנֶנְכֶּלְאִיהֶ מִמֶּנִּי : אֵם - לֹא שְׂוִיהִי

וְרַמְמִיהִי לְנֶפֶשׁ בָּסָר עָלַי אֲנִי בֹדֵק עַלִּי נֶפֶשׁ :



Thus from the gate or entrance, I haue brought you into the house; where you haue scene sundry ornaments and peeces of Art: and now (if you be not weary) goe with me into one roome more, and there take a view of the implements and tooles, with which you must worke, if you meane to proue a Pen-man; and learne how you are to vse and handle them. But before we enter, steppe aside with me, and I will giue you notice of certaine obseruations, which are necessary to be knowne of euery one that will practise this Art.

Obseruations for writing.

EVERY one that intends eyther to be a Teacher of others, or a Practitioner for himselfe; ought to know that in the Art of Letters, or Writing, three things are to be obserued, viz.

- 1 *Ratio*
- 2 *Modus*
- 3 *Species.*

The former whereof, which is Reason, hath reference to the vnderstanding, and doth most of all concerne the speculative part of Writing. *Generally.*

The

The two latter, viz. the *manner* and *shape* (which of euery letter throughout the Alphabet is to be obserued) doth consist in the carriage of the *hand*; and these are the practise parts of *Writing*.

Particularly.
1 Ratio.

First, the *Reason* of euery letter must be found out; as why such a letter being made thus and thus, seemes more gracefull then beeing made so and so? Likewise, as for euery letter, and the least touch with the Pen, a reason must be giuen: So it is in the coniunction, knitting or ioyning together of the letters; Why the pen must heere be taken off, and why there not taken off? why the nature of this letter will admit the taking off of the Pen; and why the nature of that letter doth require the contrary. These things must bee resolued to the learner, by Reason; else how shall he vnderstand to write well?

2 Modus.

Next, the *manner* of making euery letters must be knowne too. For if a Scholler be taught to frame his letter after an ill, corrupt & contrary way: It cannot be that he should euer write well. And although perchance some doe write sufficient and seruiceable hands, that neuer were taught the true way of framing their Characters: Yet notwithstanding, what they do, they (as we say) do by rote, not vnderstanding, or conceiuing how they write. For I dare vndertake, that such as haue not bene rightly grounded heerein, are neuer able to know or iudge of the goodnes or badnes of a letter. Therefore it were to be

be wished, that men would refraine from these Botchers that spoyle so many, and bring vp such a multitude of Scriblers, not fit for any mans employment: and that they would (not standing vpon the pay, as many ignorant persons doe) put their youth to such as are able to teach, and are knowne to be good Pen-men.

Lastly, as the reason and the manner of euery letter is to be obserued: so the shape (which giueth *life* and *spirit* to writing) must bee knowne also: for therein the very substance of *Writing* consisteth. 3 *Species.*

Herein a man ought to be very wary and circumspect, concerning the carriage of his Pen: That is, that he do not presse vpon that part of the letter which requires a fauourable touch; nor be sparing in that part which requires the contrary; for in eyther, the *spirit* of the letter is dulled & made blockish, so that the *shape* cannot then be good.

It shall not be amisse for the diligent Practitioner, more specially to obserue these few brieue Rules concerning Writing, viz.

1 **F**irst to size his *Writing*, that is, to make the depth and fullnesse proportionable.

2 Then to obserue the *whites*, for that's a maine matter.

3 Lastly, to keepe an equall distance, as well betwene letter and
D and

and letter, as betweene worde and worde.

These three being the chiefeſt things wherein the grace of *Writing* conſiſteth.

In the next place I hold it neceſſary to ſet downe certaine rules for the making and holding of the Pen, with other things thereunto appertaining.

Obſervations or Rules for the making of the Pen.

After you haue gotten you a good Pen-kniſe well edg'd & ſmoothed vpon a hoane, and good ſecond quills, eyther of goole or Rauē, ſcraped with the backe of your kniſe, begin to make your Pen thus.

1 Firſt, holding your quill the right ſide vpwards, cut off about the third part of it flat along to the end.

2 And turning it on the backe ſide, cut off the very ende of it a ſloape; which being done, it will be forked.

3 Then holding it ſtill on the backe, make a little cut in the very middeſt of the quill.

4 When you haue done ſo, take the end of your kniſe if it haue a pegge, or elſe another quill, and make a ſlit vp ſuddenly, euen in the cut you gaue before.

5 Which

5 Which beeing done, turne your quill on the right side againe, and begin to cut a little thought aboue the slit, on that side which is next your left hand, and so continue cutting by degrees, till you think you haue sufficiently cut that side: But heerein you must be very wary you cut not off too much of the slit; for then your penne will be too hard, and if you leaue too much also, it will be ouer soft.

A caveat.

Note that if your quill (as many haue) haue teeth, you are to pare it on the backe thinly to take them away.

6 Then euen against the place you began to cut the first side, cut the other likewise, till you haue made them both of an equall thinnes; and then trying it by lifting vp the slit vpon the naile of your thumbe, you shall see whether it be too soft or too hard: if eyther, bring it to a meane by adding more slit to it, if you see it to be too hard; or by taking some away, if you perceiue it to be too soft.

Lastly, heerein lies the difficulty, viz: in the nibbing of the Pen: wherein I obserue this rule, that placing it on the naile of my thumb, or middle finger, I hold my knife somewhat sloaping, and cut the end of the nibbe, not quite off; but before my knife come off, I turne him downe-right, and so cut the nibbe cleane away, on both sides alike; contrary to that olde vulgar rule, *Dextra pars penna, &c.* Now if my Pen be to write full, I cut off so much the more of the nibbe; if small, so much the lesse.

Obserue that this nibbing of the Pen, must be done at once, though it seeme to be two severall cuts, otherwise, it will not write currantly.

Observations for the holding of the Pen.

1 **H**olde your Pen betweene your thumbe, your forefinger, and your middle finger : *viz.* with the top of your thumbe, the bottome, or lower part of your fore-finger ; and the toppe, or vpper part of your middle finger.

2 And let your other two fingers ioyne to the rest a little thought within them ; suffering none of your fingers with which you hold the Pen, to touch paper ; for that is the proper office of the fourth and little fingers, by which the strength of the others is maintained.

3 Lastly, for the right vsage of the Pen, when you can hold it ; you shall obserue, that it ought to be held directly vpon the full ; for that is most proper, being that the nibbe of the Pen must be cut euen, otherwise it is subiect to spatter. Howbeit, I deny not, but in the fetching of any compasse, it must bee held a little inclining to the left side ; for so the pen will giue full where it should, and small also where it is required.

A caveat.

Note, that the Pen must be held very gently in the hand, without griping, because of two inconueniences which come thereby.

1 The one is, that the command of hand, which otherwise (by the easie holding thereof is to be attained) is hereby vtterly lost.

2 The other is, that by this griping, or hard holding of the Pen, a
man

man is kept from a speedy dispatch of that hee goes about to write;
both which are maine enemies to Clarke-like writing.

M. B. his private opinions concerning Pen-manship.

1 **F**irst, it is a most absurd and hatefull quality, to vse any manner
of botching in the Art of *Writing*; yea though it be in a letter of
the greatestt vncertainty.

2 Again, I am of opinion, that although in the writing of some
Hands (as of the *Sett Secretary* and some other) it be now and then
tollerable to take off the Penne in coniunction of the letters, for the
more formall writing thereof: yet that in the *Facill*, but especially
in the *Fast Secretary*, it is so iniurious to the perfection of Clarke-like
writing; that I cannot free him that vseth it from the imputation of
a meere Botcher.

3 The like opinion doe I retaine of those, who must write euery
thing that is to be performed in any reasonable fashion, and with cre-
ditt: with or by a *line*: For therein they shew themselues rather Car-
penters then Writers, and cannot (in the iudgement of Artists) be
rightly tearmed good *Pen-men*.

4 Also (in my iudgement) he cannot be reputed a good *Pen-man*,

that is not able, vpon an instant, with any *Pen, Inke, or Paper*, and in the presence of whomsoever, to manifest some skill: Being that the rare and absolute quality of the Pen consisteth not in the painting, pricking forth, and tedious writing of fixe lines, priuately in a mans study, with the best implements: But in a sweete command of hand, and a certaine conceiued presumption.

5 Lastly, to vse any strange, borrowed, or inforc't tricks & knots, in or about writing, other then with the celerity of the hand are to be performed, is rather to set an inglorious glosse vpon a simple peece of worke, then to giue a comely lustre to a perfect patterne; they being as vnnaturall to *Writing*, as a surfet is to a temperate mans body.

The Postscript to the Reader.

Gentle Reader, if there be any thing herein that may content thee, I shall thinke my paines well spent; if there be not, yet vse me kindly, and impute what is amisse to my ignorance. My vnderstanding is simple, my learning little, and my style rude: Howbeit thy favourable construction of these my weake endeaours, will be an encouragement vnto me, to study the performance of some other matter, which may be of better consequence, and giue thee more satisfaction. And so not doubting of thy friendly approbation hereof, I rest

From my house at Westmr
the 4th of Aprill, 1618.

Thine as his owne,
M. B.

